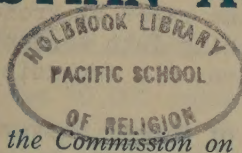


# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS



Chairman  
*Isamu Chiba*

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Editors: **Editors**  
**Helen Post**  
**Chuzo Yamada** **L. Stanley Manierre**  
**Akiko Yamaguchi**  
**James A. Gittings**

CABLE CODE; JAPACONCIL, ADDRESS; CHRISTIAN CENTER, 2,4-CHOME GINZA, TOKYO, JAPAN

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A WORD: To one alert reader, and more if more there be, our apologies for misquoting the population of Japan, in the translation, "Rice, Sake and Starving Populations" in the last issue of JCAN. The population of Japan is more than ichi (one) oku, which is 100 million--not one billion.

But 100 million is a good many people. A recent Asahi Shinbun article points out that, due to the size of the population, although Japan ranks 3rd in Gross National Product, it ranks only 20th in Per Capita Income.

## SECURITY CONSULTATION RECOMMENDS CONTINUING DIALOG

The issues of Security in general, and the Japan-U. S. Mutual Security Treaty in particular, were the subject of a Joint Consultation sponsored by the Japan National Christian Council and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., in Tozanso, Gotemba, September 17-20.

Statements on "World Views of Asia--1968, "Security," and "Development," drawn up by the Consultation, are in the process of translation and will be released shortly. In the closing session, delegates agreed that study should be continued, at various levels, on the major topics of Security and Development. Continuing committees were named to carry on the exchange of materials and to consider a possible further consultation.

The Japanese delegation of nineteen persons was led by Professor Yoshiaki Iisaka, chairman, JNCC Department of International and Social Affairs, the North American delegation of eleven members by Dr. Robert S. Bilheimer, director, NCCC-USA International Affairs Programs. Professor Iisaka and Dr. Bilheimer opened the consultation with papers on "Views of the World" and chaired the plenary sessions.

Discussions of Security, including the Security Treaty, reflected the Japanese delegates' tendency to believe in the efficacy of unarmed neutrality, whereas American delegates were more apt to recognize military power as having a necessary function in and contribution to security.



Central to the discussion of Development, which was seen as being a major factor in national security, was the paper by Professor Kikuo Yamaoka, Waseda University. The importance of taking into account local economic, as well as social and cultural, characteristics, was emphasized.

Professor Kimihide Mushakoji of Sophia University challenged the Consultation to think in terms of new forms that will provide security for small powers, to replace their present dependence on the military presence of big powers. His tentative suggestions as to a plan of regional security based on the consent and cooperation of smaller powers stimulated the most discussion and forward movement within the Consultation.

The Consultation was seen as continuing the dialog started three years ago when Japanese Christians sent a peace team of five members to the United States to discuss with American Christians the issues of the Vietnam War and world peace. Two members of that team; Professor Iisaka and Rev. Isamu Omura, chairman of the NCCJ, participated in the Tozanso meeting.

The North American delegates were:

Dr. Michael H. Armacost, International Relations,  
International Christian University  
Mr. Tristan E. Beplat, Banker  
Dr. Robert S. Bilheimer, Director, NCCC USA International Affairs Program  
Father Robert Deiters, Sophia University, Electrical Engineer  
Mr. William S. Ellis, Lawyer  
Dr. Charles H. Germany, United Methodist Church Board of World Missions  
Miss Sonja Hedlund, University Christian Movement  
Rev. Donald E. MacInnis, Director, China Program NCCC USA  
Rev. Dr. Paul W. Newman, Chung Chi College, Hong Kong, Theology  
Dr. Douglas W. Overton, The American Park Corp.  
Dr. L. Newton Thurber, United Presbyterian Church, Comm. on Ecumenical Relations

The Japanese delegates were:

Prof. Seiichi Anan, Law, Osaka City University  
Dr. (Mrs.) Kiyoko Takeda Cho, Professor and Dean, International Christian University  
Mr. Hajime Fujimori, YMCA Secretary  
Prof. Yoshiaki Iisaka, Political Science, Gakushuin University  
Rev. Masami Ishii, Japan Lutheran Theological Seminary and College  
Mrs. Ichino Karatsu, Japan WCTU  
Rev. Kazuhiko Kato, Secretary, Japan Baptist Union  
Mr. Tamio Kawakami, Member of The Lower House of the Diet  
Mr. Iwao Morioka, Editor, Protestant Publishing Co.  
Prof. Kimihide Mushakoji, International Politics, Sophia University  
Mr. Masaru Ogawa, Director, The Japan Times  
Dr. Isamu Omura, Chairman, NCCJ  
Prof. Yasuhiko Saito, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies  
Mr. Yutaka Shishido, Journalist, Kyodo News  
Rev. Masahisa Suzuki, Moderator, United Church of Christ in Japan  
Rev. Toru Takakura, Director of Evangelism, United Church of Christ  
Prof. Fujio Tomita, President, Kanto Gakuin  
Rev. Masahiro Tomura, Pastor, United Church of Christ in Japan  
Prof. Kikuo Yamaoka, Economics, Waseda University

Delegated Observers were:

Rev. R. Malcolm Ransom, Director, Missionary Education  
Rev. Alton Robertson, Fraternal Secretary, Waseda Hoshien University  
Rev. Hallam C. Shorrock, Educational Administrator, International Christian University



### CHRISTIAN BOOK PUBLISHERS EYE SECULAR MARKET

Its shelves stocked with some 60,000 volumes on Christian topics from the presses of Christian and secular publishers, the new Japan Christian Book Sales Co., Kyobunkwan Distribution Center began business officially on September 24.

Target of the new wholesaling operation is some 460 secular and 70 Christian bookstores throughout Japan, who can now be serviced with a considerable saving of time and money over the previous salesman-centered operations. The company operates from a 4-story warehouse built last year with aid from the Christian Literature Fund.

Protestant and Catholic publishers, private and denominational, are cooperating in the venture which surmounts the previous barrier to secular bookstores created by the lack of a large-scale wholesaling operation to compete in the Japan bookselling scene.

### JAPAN'S FIRST CHRISTIAN WEDDING HALL

Said to be Japan's first Christian Wedding Hall, Aoyama Hall, located at Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo, opened for business September 1, in time to catch the rush of Fall Weddings.

The handsome new three-story building, promoted largely through the Alumni Association and Auxiliary, offers complete facilities including in addition to a room for the marriage ceremony, reception rooms, banquet hall, beauty shop, rental service for wedding attire and photographer's studio. In the chapel an altar and cross are set against a background of stained glass windows, which can be curtained off.

Aoyama Gakuin is an educational institution enrolling some 18,000 students from kindergarten through graduate schools.

### DOCTORS AND THEOLOGIANS TO DISCUSS ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

A dialog between theologians and medical doctors on the subject of the transplanting of human organs will be held Tuesday, October 10, at the Norinnenkin Kaikan, Tokyo. The meeting is being co-sponsored by the Nippon Christian Academy and Japan Christian Medical Association. The speakers are Dr. Toru Okura, M. D., and Dr. Hideo Oki, professor of Christian Ethics at Tokyo Union Seminary.

The Health and Welfare ministry recently announced plans to study the proposed enactment of a law governing organ transplants.

### ECUMENICAL TAGUNG

The North Japan Academy Movement was sponsor of an ecumenical tagung in late August, which brought together twelve Roman Catholics and sixteen Protestants for study of modern church forms.

Father Karl Reiff, S. J. Sophia University, Department of Theology, reported on current developments in Catholic thought, saying, "A system synthesis on the Church has been greatly neglected in Catholic theology. Through ecumenism we get a much more dynamic and Biblical view of the Church, seeing it as the 'People of God.'"



CZECHOSLOVAKIA EMBASSY REPLIES

A letter acknowledging the letter sent by Dr. Isamu Omura, NCC chairman, with regard to the recent crisis in Czechoslovakia (see JCAN September 10) has been received from the Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Tokyo.

PERSONAL AND PERSONNEL

Professor Fujio Tomita has been elected new president of Kanto Gakuin, Yokohama, a Baptist institution with 12,000 students enrolled from kindergarten through graduate school. President Tomita is a sociologist whose major field is population studies.

The AVACO Board of Directors elected Rev. Atsumi Tasaka as new chairman at its meeting on September 11. Rev. Tasaka, pastor of Tonan Lutheran Church, Tokyo, will complete the unexpired term of the late Rev. Takihiro Yamakita.

Dr. John Howard Yoder, will be in Japan from October 8-25, under the sponsorship of the four Mennonite and Brethren in Christ groups. The only well-known Mennonite American theologian, Dr. Yoder has been called on as advisor to WCC Faith and Order studies. His specialty is Christian Ethics. He will lecture in the Tokyo and Osaka areas.

Dr. George Forell, Director of the School of Religion, University of Iowa, is serving as visiting professor at Japan Lutheran Seminary, Tokyo, and also filling a full schedule of lectures throughout Japan on Social Ethics.

The Japan Christian Culture Society is honoring six Christians, whose years of service--much of it "behind the scenes"--total more than 300 years:

Mr. Seisuke Masutomi, 90, who founded the Railroad YMCA long before World War II. His work on behalf of railroad workers included helping those handicapped by injuries incurred on the job. Mr. Masutomi also served as secretary of the Home Bible Society.

Mr. Tsutae Watanabe, 80, a shoemaker who, as a preacher for the Railroad Mission, visited stations all over Japan.

Mrs. Kinue Sugihara, 79, whose interest in Christian social work began when she accompanied her husband to Germany for medical study from 1919-21. Since returning to Japan, she has been on the executive committee of many Christian institutions, including Kyoaikan Social Center and Tokyo Union Theological Seminary. She has served as chairman of the NCC Woman's Committee and contributed to the establishment of a retirement fund for United Church of Christ pastors.

Mr. Kichihei Kamata, 79 and Mr. Isamu Seki, 76, who have served as colporteurs for the Japan Bible Society, travelling all over Japan. Mr. Seki served from 1924 to 1967; Mr. Kamata's years of service total more than 30 years.

Mr. Kenichiro Sugiyama, 71, who until his retirement this summer was secretary of the Japan Mission to Lepers, being a real friend to the patients for more than 28 years.

Dr. A. J. Stirewalt, who came to Japan in 1905, served in many capacities with Lutheran churches, and returned to the United States July 28 of this year, died September 25 at his daughter's home, as a result of pneumonia.